2/10/70

Dear Hal,

Good to hear from you last night. Had I expected your call, there are probably other things I'd have been ready to discuss. I'd have also accepted your offer to get me a copy of Bringuier's vomit, for I should not only read it for what values it may have but I should be prepared to respond to any of its lies, should this become necessary. As I told you, some are outside a victim's ability to sue over because they are immune, having been put into the Congressional Record.

Jim will undoubtedly want to read it, if he hasn't. He and Paul have been doing the best work on that aspect of LHO. I believe Bernabie will also want a copy, so if you'd get one and send it, it would be helpful. When mine finally comes, I can then let Dick have it. I suspectMary will also want one, and Gary, so a duplicate copy will find a home.

He is a very undependable source, for he confabulates when he doesn't have the urge to lie to make things consistent with his fascism. But this does not mean he cannot give leads, that he cannot be properly interpreted, or that he must be wrong. Sometimes he is partly right, as with LHO being inn his place, with the rest wrong. So, as soon as you can send it, I'd appreciate a copy, special handling, which should carry itm like first class but at book rate. Costs another quarter but with the distances, it is worth it.

It will be interesting to get Dolan's appraisal of the book, because he has become blase. If he takes the time. While I have no reason to feel confident about it, I have been able to interest people who may turn others on. I have such a meeting tomorrow, and someone who might be the catalyst was here Sunday. Others have said they are coming in within the next few weeks. We'll have to wait and see.

More than most, I believe, I can feel the impact of the irresponsible, as, of individuals, I've been their major victim. Houghton really shafts Jonn and Turner in "Sepcial Unit Senator", without mention of their names, over the Owen business. He also doesn't name Owen. The book is of such a character this was inevitable, and that such things had to be checked out is not mentioned. However, Turner should bear a great responsibility that I am sure does not touch him because he was so utterly incompetent in the investigation, if that is the word. You may remember my comments on hearing his questioning, as my instinctive disbelief of the entire story. When Jonn tried to sell me Downtown Lincoln Mercury, I knew none of it could be credited. But, such attempts to victimize us are inevitable, and despite my unhappiness at John, his dishinesties and what he cost me, I hold him less at fault that Bill, who is, supposedly, a professional.

Rightly or wrongly, I have two strong feelings: that we will not get anything solid published except by accident or subsidy, and that until there is a complete work, with more than a single thing to discuss, something giving a fairly rounded part of the total story, it is counterproductive to do radio-TV shows, unless, as I said last night, they are aimed at an immediate objective. If I could hold up to anything like the old schedule, COUP could do this, could turn many on who have not been touched. Or my autopsy work. But I think now, with any kind of luck and the kind of legal competence I hope for, the best immediate prospects of reopening interest or more is in court, where the odds are still heavily against us. This is one of my interests in Bringuier's book, for if there is libel there, I think I can get a Chicago lawyer to sue Hallberg (about whom I'd appreciate anything that might be available-he's got to be right-wing at least). If Bud does as he says, we'll have a case in court in two weeks. With help, we could file a number of viable suits within a short time.

You should recall I have held this belief, in one form or another, for some time, going back to the first raising of the Jonn head. Unfortunately, there never was the lawyer, anyone, leave alone the right one.

I wish I could hope that those trials still to be held in N.O. would do it, but I cannot reasonably hold such hope-and not because I have any doubts about the guilt of those charged. Two things, I believe, above all, will control: the incompetence and incompleteness of the charges, filed in passion, not with proper foundation and study; and the character of the law I have seen practised. It is not that the lawyers are incompetent, for they are not. It is more that this is an area strange to them and they are never adequately prepared, having always been diverted. The great evil of such as Turner, Mark, Flammonde and other sycophants should be clear to you now, as it is to probably everone on Jim's staff except him.

Moo believes that the Thornley defense will be an attack on me. This is nutty, but I suppose he and Dave really believe what Dave invented. In a way, I hope very much this is what happens, for it opens possibilities to me. Too long to go into here, but aside from the truth about this stuff it should open the prospects of getting into a court record, tested under cross-examination, what I learned, what I was told, in the presence of two others who recall and would testify in support. Here I am talking about what does not relate to KP but is of possible significance. And, although that crazy Dave will not admit it, having made no effort to test his insane preconceptions, all I was trying to do was help Thornley. If he'd paid attention, that is what would have eventuated, assuming he has no real involvement. I was in no way responsible for JG's interest in him, aside from what is in O in NO, as the character of the charge should by itself prove, from what you know.

The real tragedy in all of this is the incapacity of you people out there to have learned from this, for so many of you cntinued to associate with Dave, who at best had to be proven as crazy, with Fred, whose cowardice and stupidity and totla dishonesty made the whole mess possible, and with that kind of thinking and "work". As a consequence, I think we have other such messes to look forward to... All who say they are with us are not...

If Joe finds any real interest in any part of the book, the only way I would go out there is to make a speech or speeches and then at reasonable honoraria. There should be black interest. If not, then not. They tlak big but haven't learned, about such things as hanging together. That Garry could get an hour away and not phone is all thenindication I need. This I spoke to you as I did and wrote Paul in the same vein, saying don't <u>give</u> them any more. Let them help or nothing....If Joe gets interested in the "Senator" book, though, I'd like to hear tapes of what he airs and could respond by phone. I have sent Paul a memo, a rather hasty one, after a hasty reading. And, if Owen Spann is still on the air, there is a special angle for him. But I have no great interest in this. My only purpose would be to keep the heat, if any, off of you people and to prevent some of the corruption of the public mind...With all the heat for black studies, no black interest in the murder of the most prominent black leader is, really, shocking and, I feel, much to expressive, too revealling. We've got black lemmings, too. I know some. Of course, there are, as always, the traditional Jewish lemmings, too. Lemmings enuf.

Gotta get to work. I look forward to hearing of Joe's reaction, especially because he is so blase. My best to the many fine people.

Sincerely,